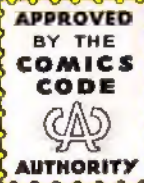




10¢

JUNE  
NO. 33



# HOUSE of SECRETS

*"The  
MONSTER of  
the MOUNTAIN!"*

MARK IS BEING  
PULLED INTO THE  
GORGE--AND INTO THE  
ARMS OF THAT WAITING  
BEAST!



A  
**MARK  
MERLIN**  
MYSTERY



## THE \$10,000 CHALLENGE ONLY JOE WEIDER DARES TO MAKE!

**MY GUARANTEE!** Use my system for training and you will gain twice as much muscle and triple your power in less than Half The Time it would take if you followed any other method.



"The Muscle Builder"  
"Trainer of The Champions"

### "MR. AMERICA" "MR. UNIVERSE"

CLANCY ROSS, world's best developed man, says: "You can be a mountain of mighty muscles — with power oozing out of every pore in your power-packed, jet-charged body! Do what I did — what thousands of other Herculean Weider-trained champions did — follow Weider as your leader — mail that coupon for your **FREE TRIAL COURSE TODAY!**"

CLANCY ROSS: Mass of power-laden muscles — mighty 20-inch arms, 50-inch chest, shoulders of iron a yard wide!

ONLY 7 SHORT WEEKS TO  
THAT DYNAMIC, RUGGED HE-MAN  
BODY YOU ALWAYS WANTED

## ADD 3 INCHES OF STEEL-LIKE MUSCLES TO YOUR ARMS...

## 4 "POWER PACKED" INCHES OF MUSCLES TO YOUR CHEST!

Says JOE WEIDER, "The Muscle Builder" and "Trainer of the Champions"

**I**N half the time, with twice the ease, in the privacy of your own room, in just a few minutes daily, I will, through my **TRIPLE-PROGRESSION COURSE**, slap inches of steel muscles to your pipe-stem arms, pack your chest with power and size, give you life-guard shoulders, dynamic, speedy athletic legs — add Jet-Charged strength to every muscle in your body. I don't care if you're

short or tall, skinny or fat, office-worker, laborer, school-boy, or businessman, I must make a new virile he-man out of you, and also . . . help build "inner strength" that will give you that virile look, that women admire and men envy. Here's what I did for Clancy Ross, one of the many thousands of weaklings I turned into He-Men.



**NOTHING TO BUY!  
YES, THAT'S RIGHT!**

## A-C-T-I-O-N

IS THE KEY TO STRENGTH! MAKE YOUR FIRST HE-MAN DECISION TO-DAY! Rush in this coupon for your free trial course. You have nothing to lose but your weakness.

**AMAZING FREE TRIAL OFFER**

**Don't miss this once-in-a lifetime opportunity  
LET ME PROVE TO YOU, AT MY  
OWN EXPENSE, EVERYTHING  
I SAY CAN BE DONE!**

**FREE MUSCLE BUILDING TRIAL OFFER.** Fill out coupon and mail to me. I'll rush you my **GIANT 48 page course**, filled with exercises, training secrets, Heroic photos of mighty champions and private advice on how you can become a muscle star fast! This sensational offer is good only to males between 13 and 65 in normal good health.

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**JOE WEIDER**  
803 Palisade Avenue, Union City, N. J.

Dept. 80-60A

Shoot the works, Joe! Rush me my **FREE INTRODUCTORY POWER-PACKED, MUSCLE-BUILDING COURSE**. (I enclose only 10¢ to cover cost of handling and mailing.) I am under no obligation.

NAME  AGE

ADDRESS

CITY  ZONE  STATE



ITS SIZE WAS THAT OF AN AIRPLANE-- AND IT  
POSSESSED POWERS GIVEN TO NO OTHER  
BIRD, BEAST, OR MAN! BUT BEHIND ITS  
GLEAMING EYES LAY A SINISTER  
SECRET-- AND IT ALMOST  
COST MEN THEIR LIVES  
TO LEARN THE MYSTERY OF...

# the FANTASTIC FALCON



LOOK! THE  
GIANT FALCON  
IS RESCUING  
THE TRAPPED  
MINERS!

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HOUSE OF SECRETS, No. 33, June, 1960 issue. Published monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and Dickey Streets, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 573 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y. Editor: Jack Schiff; Associate Editors: Murray Boltinoff, George Koshdan. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. \$1.50 including postage. Foreign \$3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Felden & Co., 205

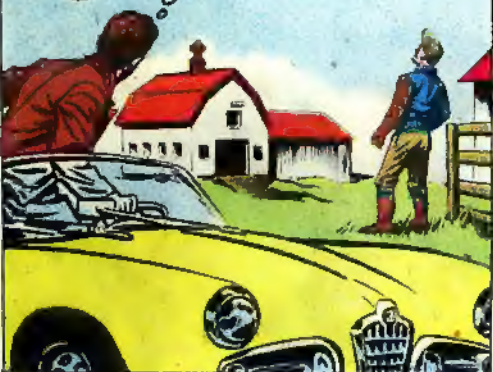
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THE VISITOR TO FALCON FARMS STEPS OUT OF HIS ROADSTER AND IS SHOCKED TO SEE--

THREE HAWKS... IN DIVE-BOMBER FORMATION-- ATTACKING THAT MAN!



BUT TO HIS RELIEF...



WHY... THEY ALIGHTED ON HIS ARM! THEY MUST BE TRAINED TO DO THAT STUNT!

FROM WHAT I JUST SAW, YOU MUST BE LARRY BARNES, THE FAMOUS FALCONER!

RIGHT! AND I SUPPOSE YOU'RE ANOTHER STUDIO AGENT, WHO WISHES TO HIRE MY FALCONS FOR A MOVIE!



NO... I'M TOO FARR, AN ARCHAEOLOGIST! RECENTLY, I DISCOVERED A CAVE--AND INSIDE, I FOUND SOMETHING WHICH YOU, AS A FALCONRY EXPERT, MAY IDENTIFY!

KEEP TALKING!



NO NEED TO! JUST COME WITH ME TO THE CAVE... YOU WON'T BE SORRY!

FINE!... I'LL GET READY AS SOON AS I'VE NOTIFIED MY ASSISTANT!



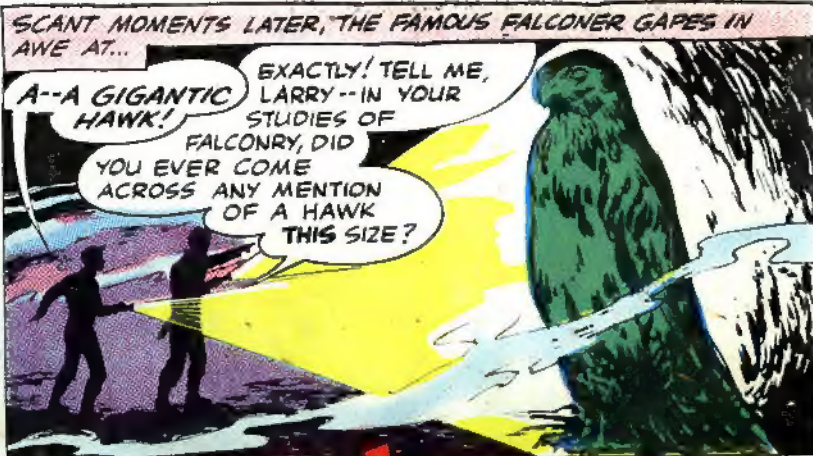
AFTER A SPEEDY PLANE TRIP, AND A STEEP MOUNTAIN CLIMB...

THIS IS IT, LARRY! FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, I CAMOUFLAGED THE ENTRANCE!



GOOD IDEA! LEAD THE WAY...





INCH BY INCH, THE HUGE BURDEN IS PULLED ALONG THE CAVE FLOOR, UNTIL...





IN THE NEXT TERRIFYING MOMENTS...



LARRY! I--I CAN'T HANG ON VERY LONG LIKE THIS!

W-W-E'VE GOT A CHOICE OF DYING BY THAT BIG BIRD--OR FALLING A MILE!

BUT TO THEIR AMAZEMENT...

HEY!... THE FALCON IS HOVERING AND FLAPPING ITS WINGS SO HARD THAT... THAT--

WE'RE BEING BLOWN BACK TO THE LEDGE BY THE POWERFUL WIND IT'S CREATING!



AND SOON AFTER THE INCREDIBLE RESCUE...

BY THUNDER, LARRY-- THE BIG FELLOW'S TAKEN QUITE A SHINE TO YOU!

MAYBE IT INSTINCTIVELY RECOGNIZES ME AS A FALCONER! BUT WHAT DOES IT WANT OF ME?



AS IF IN ANSWER, THE GIANT HAWK LOWERS ITS BEAK, AND...

GOOD GRIEF! IT'S CARRYING US OFF--



BUT WHERE IS IT TAKING US?

NEXT MOMENT...

LOOK BELOW, TOD... SOME KIND OF MINE DISASTER!

WE SEEM TO BE GOING DOWN FOR A LANDING!





AFTER GENTLY DEPOSITING ITS PASSENGERS...

I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND... THE HAWK IS USING ITS CLAWS TO DIG A BIG HOLE! WHAT'S IT AFTER?



LOOK FOR YOURSELF, TOD! S-SOMEHOW, IT KNEW EXACTLY WHERE THE MINERS WERE --AND DUG A NEW OPENING TO FREE 'EM! B-BUT... HOW COULD IT KNOW?



I--I WAS WONDERING ABOUT THE SAME THING, LARRY!

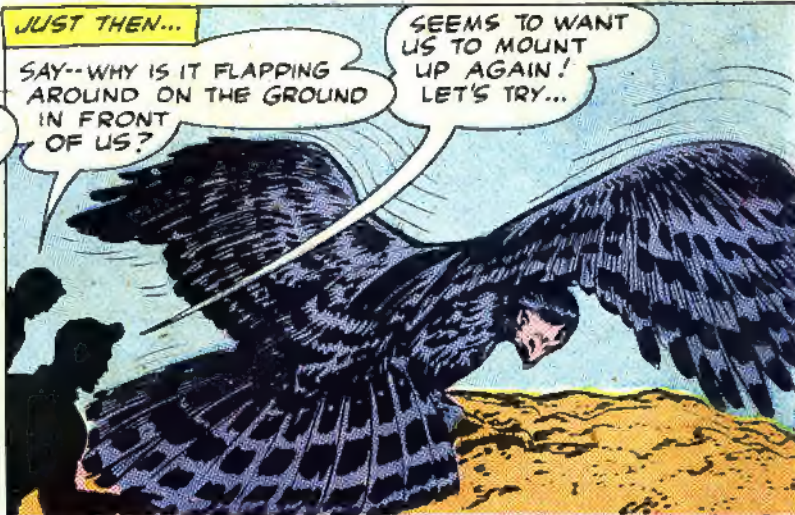
IT'S--IT'S SUPER-NATURAL, TOD! THERE CAN'T BE ANY OTHER EXPLANATION!



JUST THEN...

SAY--WHY IS IT FLAPPING AROUND ON THE GROUND IN FRONT OF US?

SEEMS TO WANT US TO MOUNT UP AGAIN! LET'S TRY...



THE INSTANT THEY DO...

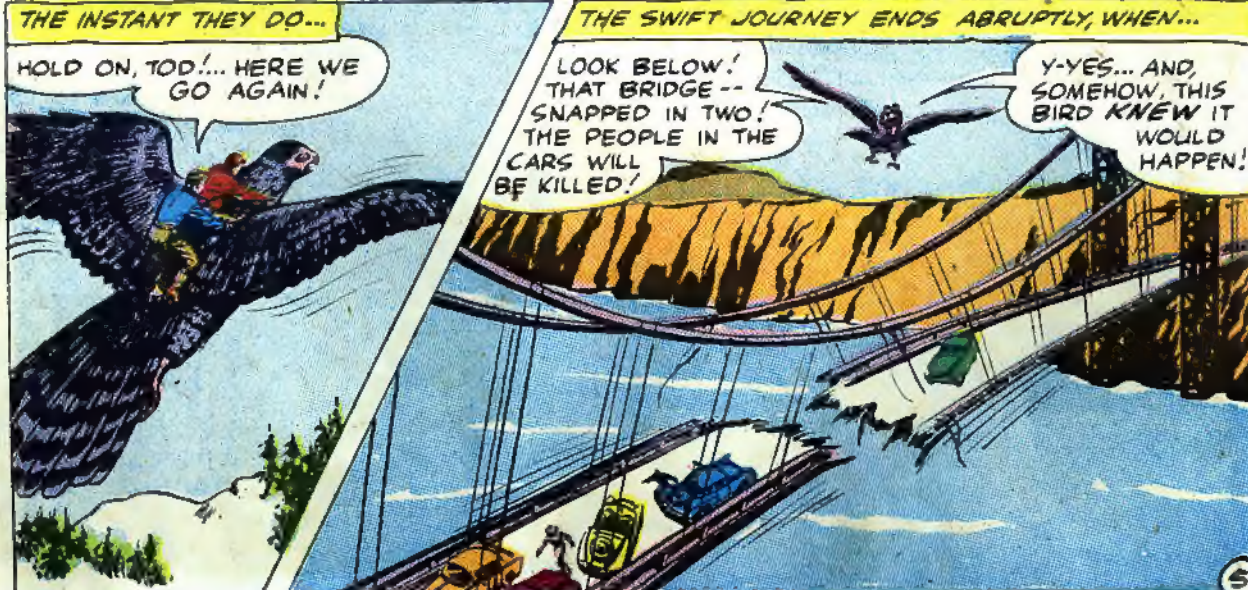
HOLD ON, TOD!... HERE WE GO AGAIN!



THE SWIFT JOURNEY ENDS ABRUPTLY, WHEN...

LOOK BELOW! THAT BRIDGE--SNAPPED IN TWO! THE PEOPLE IN THE CARS WILL BE KILLED!

Y-YES... AND, SOMEHOW, THIS BIRD KNEW IT WOULD HAPPEN!





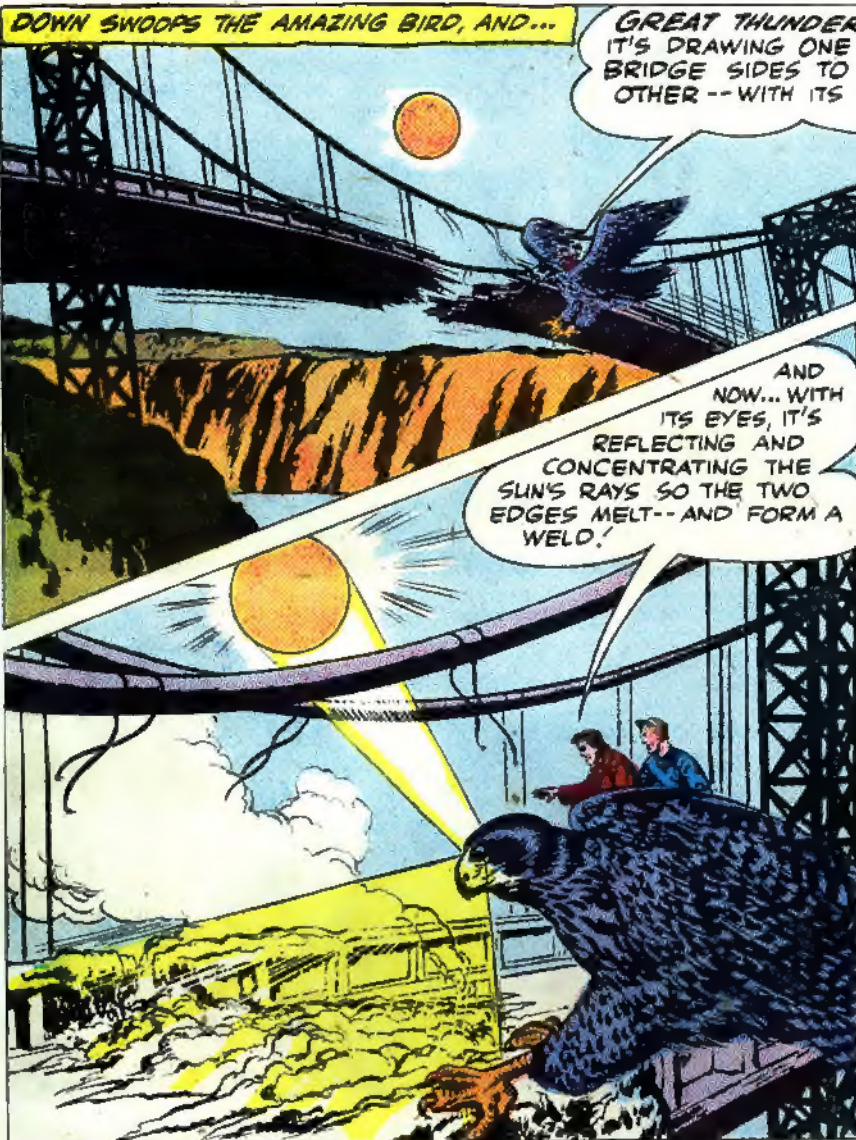
DOWN SWOOPS THE AMAZING BIRD, AND...

GREAT THUNDER!  
IT'S DRAWING ONE OF THE  
BRIDGE SIDES TO THE  
OTHER -- WITH ITS BEAK!

AND  
NOW... WITH  
ITS EYES, IT'S  
REFLECTING AND  
CONCENTRATING THE  
SUN'S RAYS SO THE TWO  
EDGES MELT-- AND FORM A  
WELD!

LARRY--  
THIS IS LIKE  
A DREAM!  
WHY-- WITH  
THIS SINGLE  
BIRD, WE  
COULD SAVE  
THOUSANDS  
OF LIVES!

YES--  
AND  
JUDGING  
FROM ITS  
SPEED,  
WE'RE  
ALREADY  
ON OUR  
WAY TO  
ANOTHER  
THREATENING  
CATASTROPHE!



BUT TO THEIR SURPRISE...

WHY-- IT'S  
BROUGHT US  
BACK TO  
THE CAVE!

YES-- AND LOOK, LARRY..  
IT'S POINTING INSIDE  
THE CAVE!



THAT PROBABLY MEANS TROUBLE  
OF SOME KIND IN THERE! LET'S  
SEE WHAT IT IS ...





PROBING DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE CAVE, THEY MAKE AN ASTONISHING DISCOVERY...

GREAT GUNS!... MORE GIANT HAWKS!

SO THAT'S IT! OUR FALCON, WHICH CAN'T ENTER

WITHOUT BEING AFFECTED BY THE ATMOSPHERE IN HERE, WANTS US TO DRAG 'EM OUT!



BUT AT THAT INSTANT...

HELP! YEEOW! AEEEEE!

HUH?... BIG COMMOTION OUTSIDE! LET'S FIND OUT WHAT'S CAUSING IT!



RACING BACK TO THE CAVE ENTRANCE, THEY SEE...

THE HAWK!... HURLING ROCKS-- TO KEEP THOSE NATIVE CLIMBERS FROM COMING UP! WHY?



MAYBE TO KEEP THEM FROM TELLING US SOMETHING! TOD-- WE MAY BE IN TROUBLE!

HUH?... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



SUPPOSING THAT HAWK DELIBERATELY WON OUR CONFIDENCE-- JUST SO WE WOULD DRAG OUT THOSE OTHER BIRDS! AND SUPPOSING THEY'RE ALL EVIL!

GOSH... WITH ALL THAT POWER, A NUMBER OF 'EM COULD SURE CAUSE A LOT OF HARM!

BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?... WE'VE ALREADY UNLEASHED ONE HAWK!

I'VE GOT AN IDEA, TOD... GET YOUR ROPE UNCOILED!





SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE IMPATIENT FALCON PEERS INTO THE CAVE...



INSTANTLY, IT GOES PLUNGING IN...



IT WORKED! THE HAWK SAW ONE OF ITS PALS SEEMINGLY AWAKE--AND FIGURED THE AIR IN HERE HAD BECOME SAFE!



B-BUT THE AIR'S NOT AFFECTING IT--AS YOU SAID! IT'S--IT'S STILL COMING ON... TOWARDS US!

BUT, ABRUPTLY...

IT-IT FELL ASLEEP!

WHEW! NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!

LATER...

THE NATIVES SAY THERE'S A LEGEND IN THESE PARTS--ABOUT EVIL SORCERERS WHO WERE ONCE CHANGED INTO HAWKS--AND IMPRISONED IN THE CAVE! THAT'S WHAT OUR FALCON WAS TRYING TO KEEP THEM FROM REVEALING!



HMPH!... SOUNDS CRAZY TO ME--BUT WHY TAKE CHANCES? LET'S GET THIS CAVE ENTRANCE SEALED UP--PRONTO!



THE END



# THE READERS' CHOICE !

Now  
SUPERMAN-DC

GIVES YOU

# Two

MAGAZINES FEATURING  
ADVENTURES OF THE

*BRAND-NEW HEROES*  
*You* ASKED FOR!

# SHOWCASE

The  
**BRAVE and the BOLD**

**JUSTICE  
LEAGUE  
of AMERICA**

ONE BY ONE I'M TRANSFERRING  
THE SUPER-POWERS OF THE  
JUSTICE LEAGUE MEMBERS  
TO AMAZO - THE SYNTHETIC  
MAN I CREATED! THEN...  
NOTHING WILL STOP US  
FROM CONQUERING  
THE EARTH!

A star-studded spectacular...  
**'The Case of the  
STOLEN  
SUPER-POWERS!'**

**SHOWCASE** presents

**Rip Hunter  
TIME MASTER**

**'The Aliens from  
2000 B.C.'**

GREAT SCOTT!  
CREATURES FROM SPACE  
HERE ON EARTH IN  
ANCIENT EGYPT!



**ON SALE  
APR. 28<sup>TH</sup>**

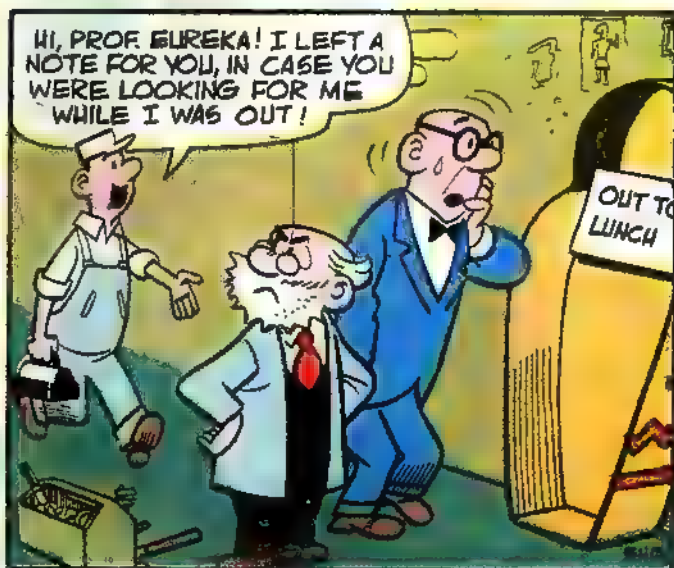
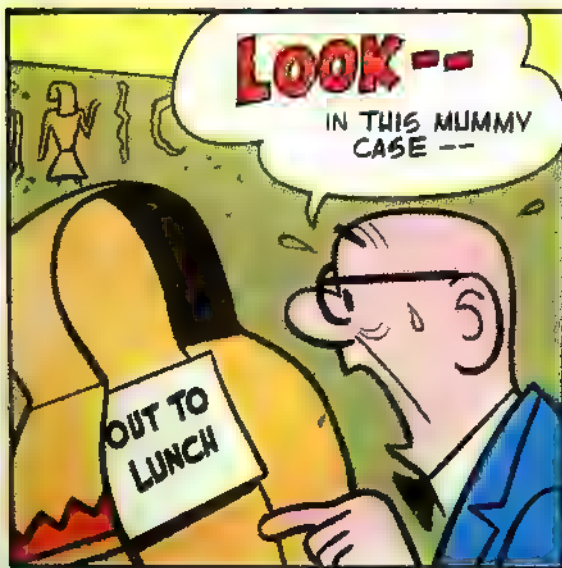
**NOW ON  
SALE!**





# PROFESSOR EUREKA

HENRY  
BOLSHOFF





**BE MY GUEST  
AT THE 5 RING  
HUNT BROS.  
ROYAL  
INTERNATIONAL  
CIRCUS**

**PALISADES**  
*Amusement*  
**PARK N.J.**



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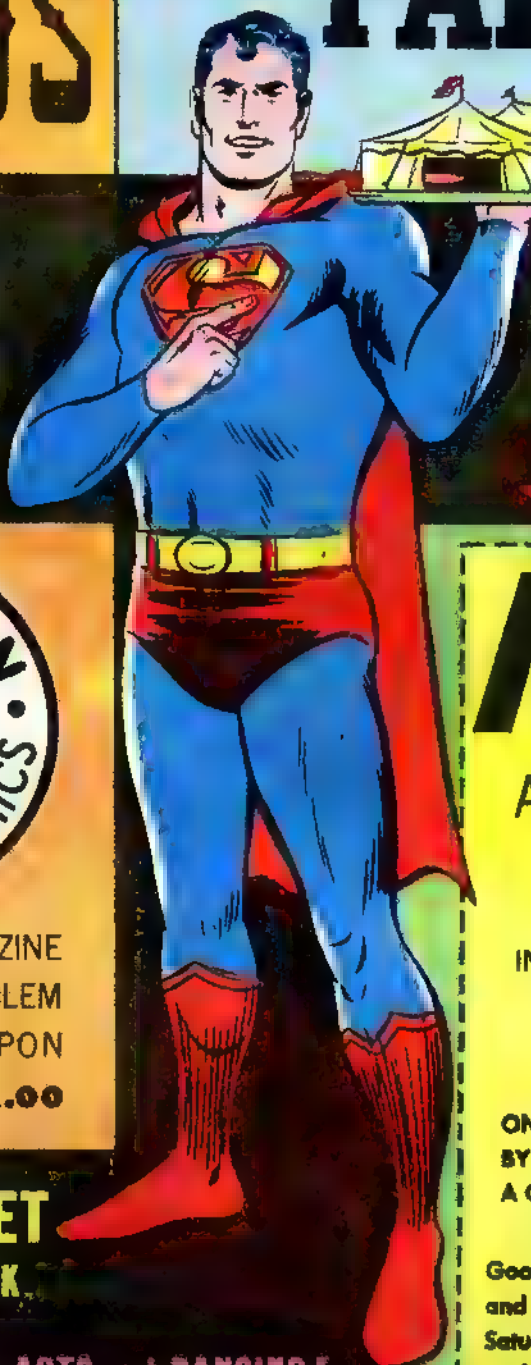
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**FREE** PARKING, ACTS and DANCING



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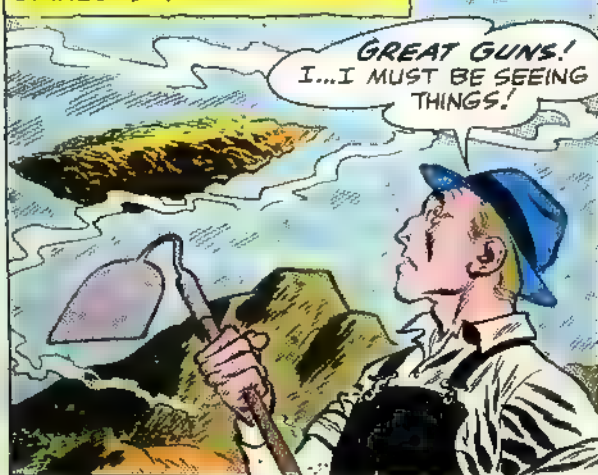


IT HUNG ABOVE THE CITY... DEFYING GRAVITY... LIKE A GRIM, FOREBODING CLOUD! WHY DID IT COME HERE? WHAT SECRET LAY BEHIND...

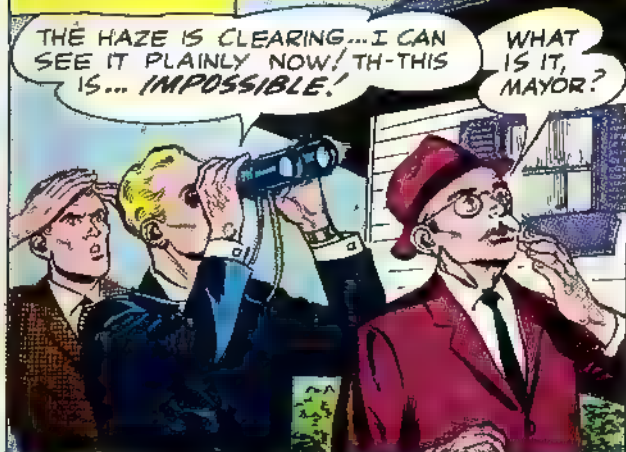
# THE ISLAND IN THE SKY



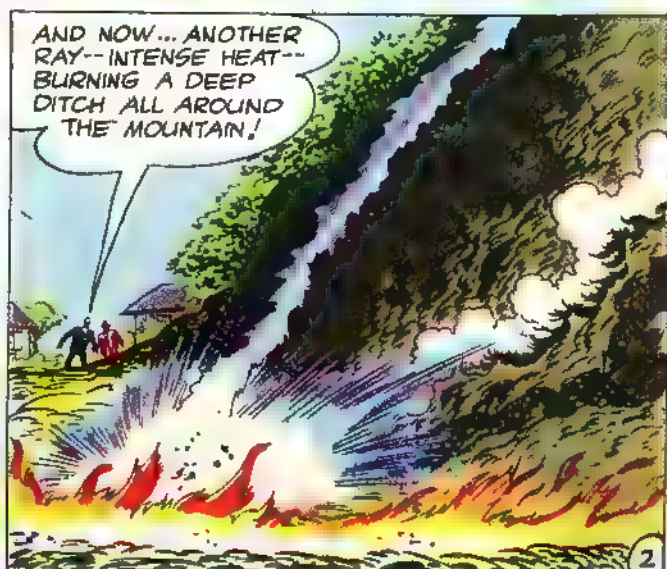
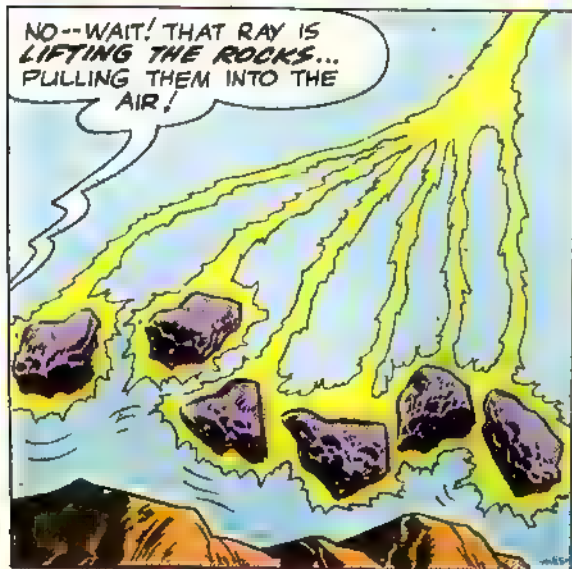
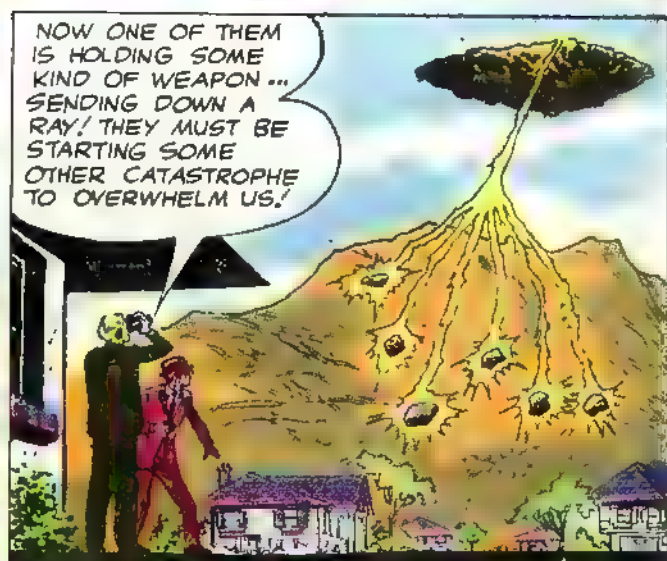
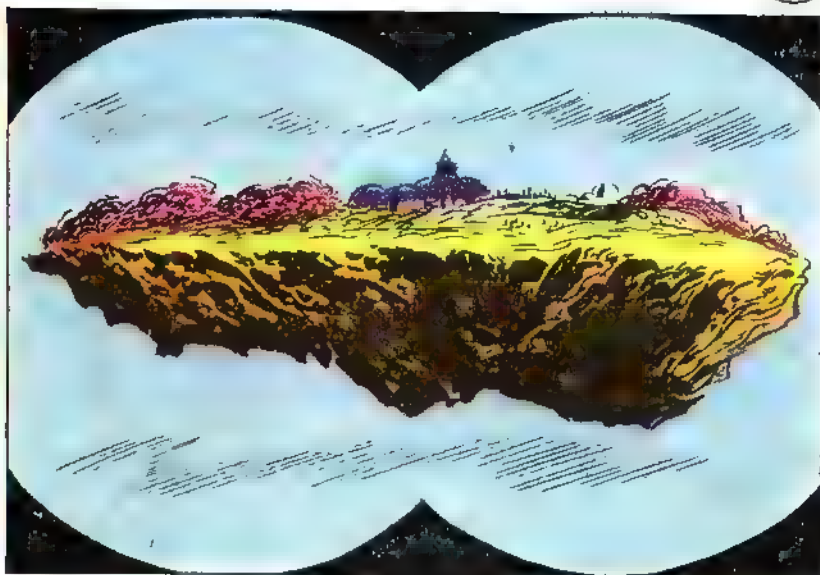
AS THE EARLY MOUNTAIN MIST CLEARS OUTSIDE A SMALL CITY, A FARMER STARES SKYWARD IN AWE...



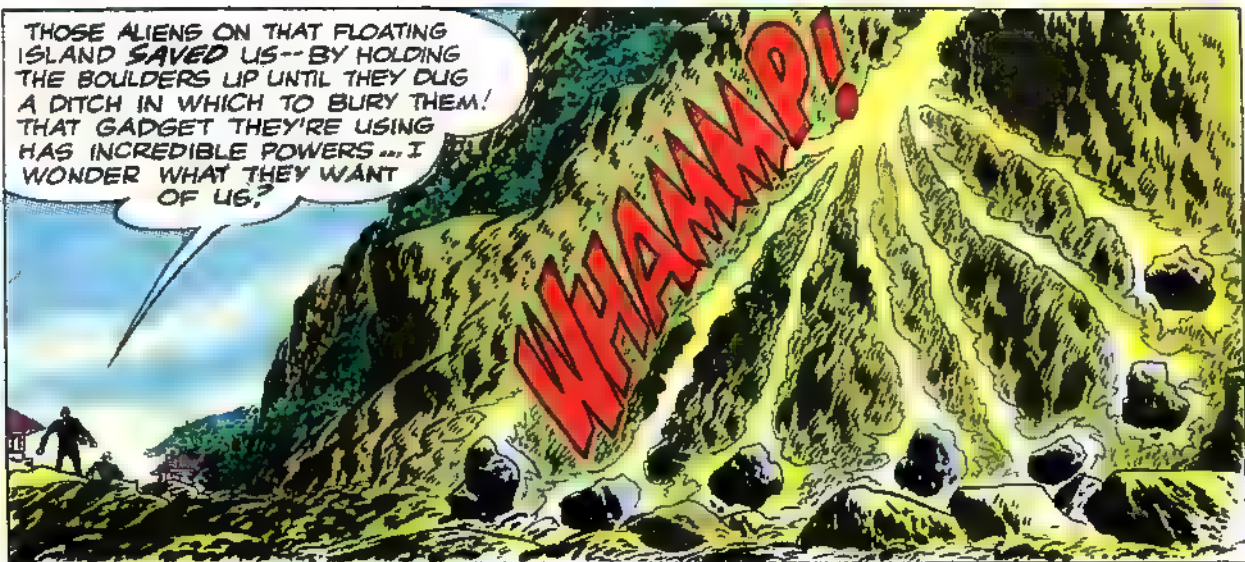
WHILE IN THE HEART OF A NEARBY CITY, YOUNG MAYOR BRETT STEVENS GAZES INCREDULOUSLY THROUGH POWERFUL BINOCULARS...







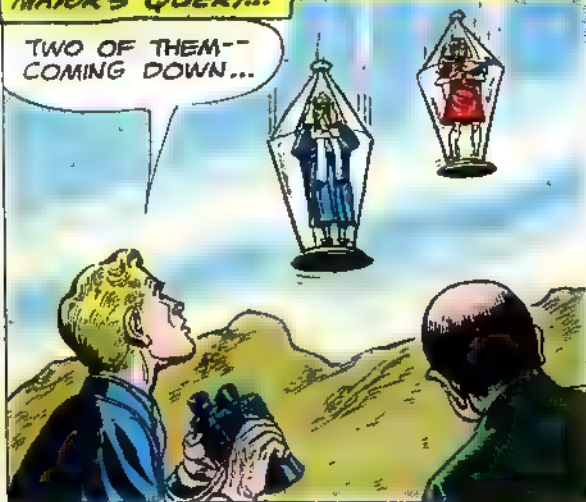




THOSE ALIENS ON THAT FLOATING ISLAND **SAVED** US-- BY HOLDING THE BOULDERS UP UNTIL THEY DUG A DITCH IN WHICH TO BURY THEM! THAT GADGET THEY'RE USING HAS INCREDIBLE POWERS... I WONDER WHAT THEY WANT OF US?

AT THAT INSTANT, AS IF IN ANSWER TO THE MAYOR'S QUERY...

TWO OF THEM-- COMING DOWN...



TENSE MOMENTS LATER...

GREETINGS, PEOPLE OF EARTH! I AM **GOSPAR**, CHIEF ELDER OF THMOG, SPEAKING TO YOU BY MEANS OF TELEPATHY! WHAT YOU SEE ABOVE...



...IS ALL THAT IS LEFT OF OUR FAR DISTANT PLANET, WHICH COLLIDED WITH A GIANT COMET! THOUGH CONTINUING TO CIRCLE OUR SUN, IT WAS LOSING ATMOSPHERE! WE REALIZED WE WERE DOOMED--



"--UNTIL OUR CHIEF SCIENTIST DEvised A SOLUTION..."

I HAVE HAD THE CENTER OF OUR LAND HOLLOWED OUT AND FITTED WITH A POWERFUL **INTERSTELLAR DRIVE**! OUR PEOPLE CAN HIDE UNDERGROUND, WHILE THE ENTIRE ISLAND BECOMES A SPACE SHIP! WE WILL SEEK SOME OTHER PLANET TO LIVE ON!



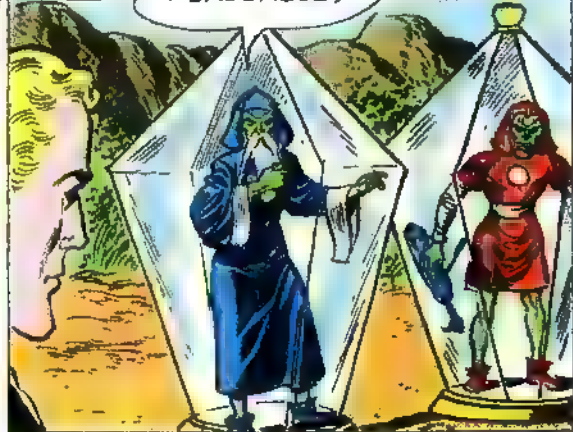


CONDITIONS ON EARTH ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE ON OUR DESTROYED PLANET! WE WOULD LIKE PERMISSION TO LIVE HERE... ANYWHERE! OUR SCIENCE CAN TRANSFORM YOUR MOST BARREN WASTE TO A SUITABLE HOME!

INCREDIBLE! OF COURSE-- I'LL HAVE TO TRANSMIT YOUR REQUEST TO OUR GOVERNMENT!



VERY WELL...WE WILL STAY WHERE WE ARE, AWAITING THE DECISION! AND FEAR NOT... REGARDLESS OF THE ANSWER, OUR INTENTIONS ARE PEACEABLE!



**BUT AS SOON AS THE ALIENS DEPART...**

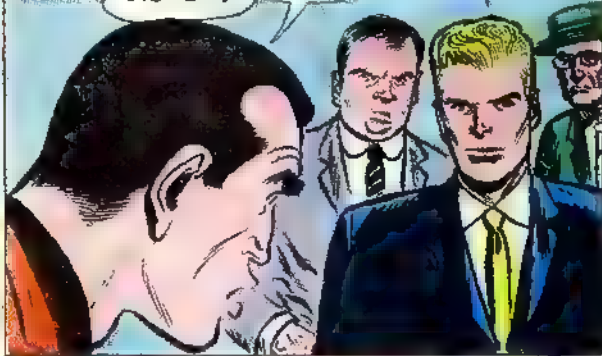
ARE YOU GOING TO LET THEM STAY THERE-- FLOATING OVER OUR HEADS WITH THOSE WEAPONS-- AND **JUST WAIT?** AREN'T YOU GOING TO TAKE ANY **ACTION?**

CAREFUL, GREGG-- THIS SITUATION IS DYNAMITE! I DON'T WANT ANY OF YOUR HOT-HEADED MEDDLING!



YOU MEAN, WE SHOULD JUST LET 'EM WIPE US OUT IF THE GOVERNMENT SAYS **NO**, EH? OR LET 'EM LAND AND GRADUALLY TAKE OVER IF THE GOVERNMENT SAYS **YES?** EITHER WAY WE'RE LICKED!

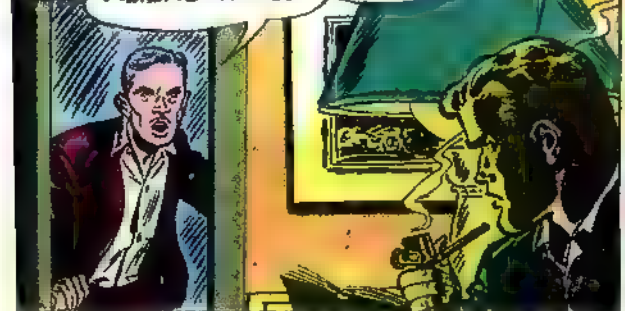
NONSENSE, GREGG! YOU'RE JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS!



**BUT THAT NIGHT, AS MAYOR STEVENS MULLS OVER THE PROBLEM...**

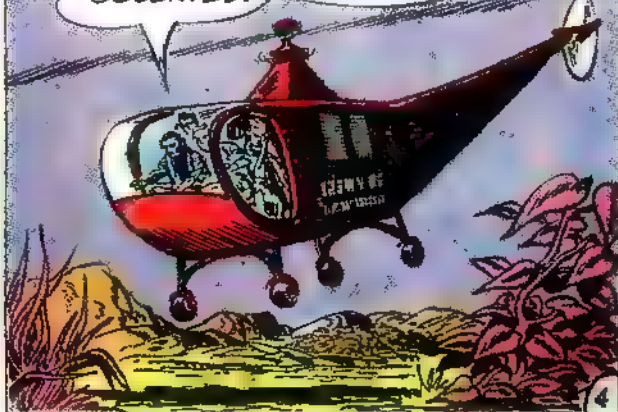
MAYOR! GREGG ALBEN AND A NUMBER OF OTHER FELLOWS--IN A HELICOPTER-- GOING UP TO THAT ISLAND IN THE SKY! THEY'RE PLANNING TO STEAL ONE OF THOSE WEAPONS THE ALIENS HAVE!

WH-WHAT? I MUST STOP THEM!



**AT THIS VERY MOMENT, HOWEVER...**

LUCKY WE SPOTTED THIS EMPTY, ROCKY PLACE ON THE ISLAND! NO ALIENS HERE... WE CAN LAND WITHOUT BEING OBSERVED!





SILENTLY, THE EARTHMEN CREEP TO AN OCCUPIED SECTION, WHERE...

NOT A SOUND! WE DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, UNLESS WE HAVE TO!

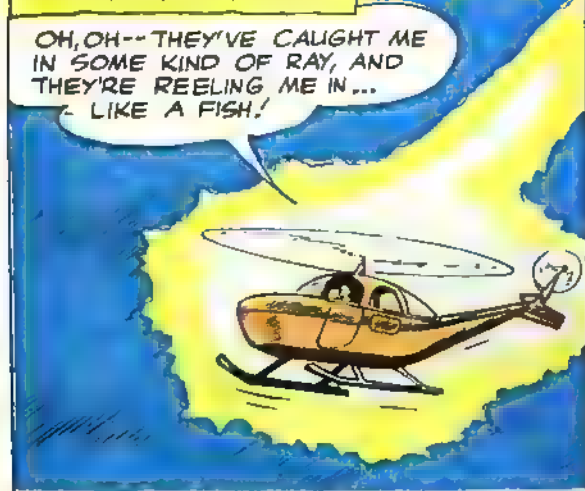


NOW IF THEY START SOMETHING, WE'LL BE READY FOR THEM! WE'LL FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE!



THIS, AWHILE LATER, WHEN BRETT TAKES OFF FOR THE ISLAND...

OH, OH--THEY'VE CAUGHT ME IN SOME KIND OF RAY, AND THEY'RE REELING ME IN... LIKE A FISH!



SHORTLY...

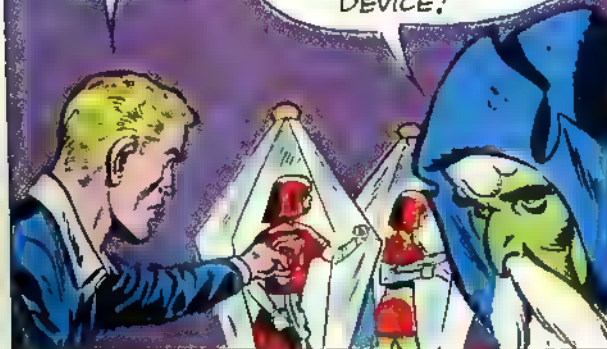
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GUARD YOURSELF AGAINST ME! I'M HERE ON A FRIENDLY MISSION... TO WARN YOU AGAINST SOME HOTHEADS WHO CAME HERE TO STEAL ONE OF YOUR WEAPONS!

YOU ARE TOO LATE, EARTHLING... THEY ALREADY HAVE!



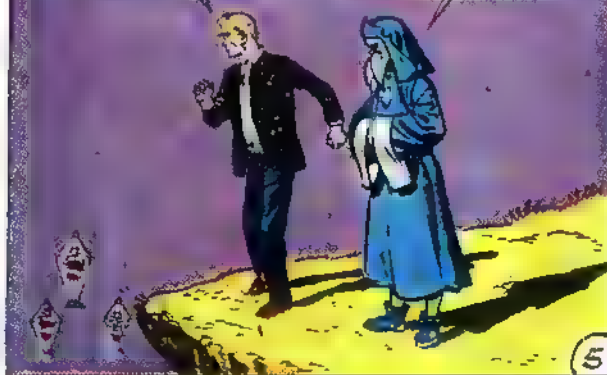
WAIT! THOSE MEN OF YOURS... DON'T LET THEM GO DOWN! THERE MAY BE BLOODSHED! STOP THEM!

I NO LONGER CAN! THEY DEMANDED THE RIGHT TO RECAPTURE OUR WEAPON, AND THE COUNCIL APPROVED! THEY ARE AFRAID OF WHAT YOUR PEOPLE WILL DO WITH THAT POWERFUL DEVICE!



THEN AT LEAST, LET ME GO! I'M SURE I CAN GET THEM TO RETURN IT BEFORE THERE'S TROUBLE!

I WILL DISCUSS YOUR REQUEST WITH THE COUNCIL, AND LET YOU KNOW OUR DECISION!





MEANWHILE, IN A REMOTE AREA DOWN BELOW...

WE'LL HIDE OUT IN **YARROW CAVE**! THEY'LL NEVER FIND US THERE-- AND WE CAN BLAST THEM OUT OF THE SKY IF THEY START ANYTHING!



LATER, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...

WE CAN DO **THIS** TO YOUR CITY...



...OR **THIS**--UNLESS YOU TELL US WHERE THE MEN WHO STOLE OUR WEAPON ARE HIDING!

BUT WE DON'T KNOW... HONEST!

I BELIEVE THEY ARE TELLING THE TRUTH!



WHILE ON THE FLOATING ISLAND...

WE HAVE DECIDED THAT YOU MAY GO! ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT FULLY TRUST YOU, WE DO NOT SEE WHAT HARM IT WILL DO... AND YOU MAY ACHIEVE SOME GOOD!

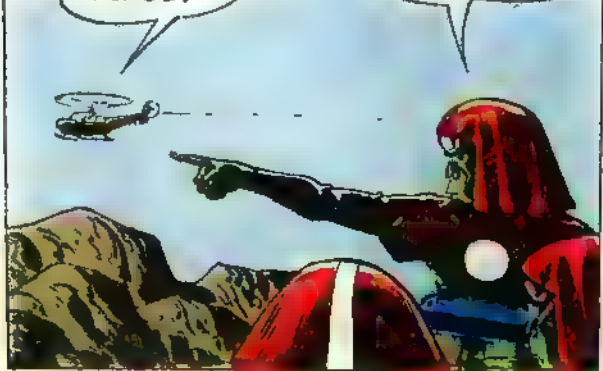
YOU BET I WILL! I'LL DO ANYTHING TO PREVENT A CLASH!



SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

I'VE SCOUTED THE WHOLE AREA... NO SIGN OF THEM! MAYBE THEY'RE HIDING OUT... **YARROW CAVE** WOULD BE A LIKELY PLACE!

LOOK!... THE MAYOR! HE MUST SEEK THE ONES WE'RE AFTER! FOLLOW HIS MACHINE!



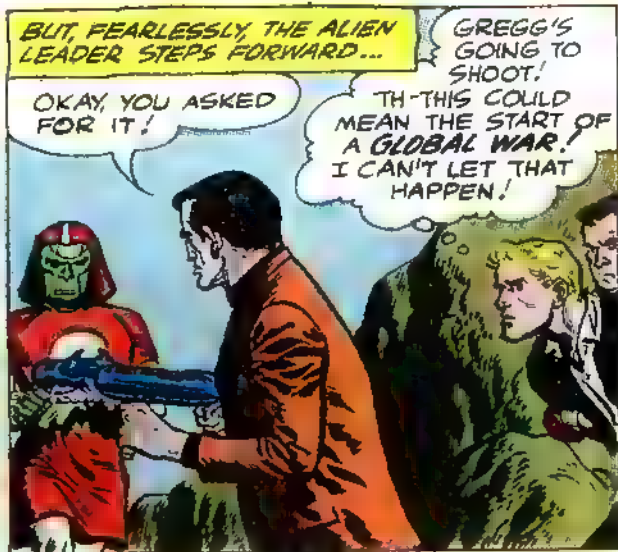
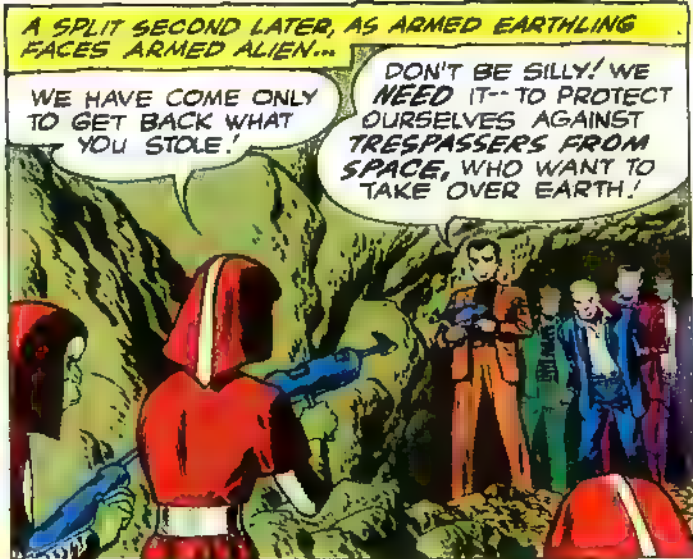
SOON...

**GREGG!**... I THOUGHT I'D FIND YOU HERE! GIVE ME THAT WEAPON!

ARE YOU **CRAZY?** DO YOU THINK WE RISKED OUR NECKS JUST TO GIVE IT TO YOU? GRAB HIM, BOYS!









**BUT JUST THEN...**

YOU HAVE PROVEN THAT YOU CAN BE TRUSTED, MAYOR STEVENS!  
**WE** WISH TO AVOID USELESS STRIFE, TOO! WE PERMITTED OUR MEN  
 TO DESCEND ONLY BECAUSE WE FEARED WHAT **YOUR** PEOPLE  
 MIGHT DO!

PRESENTLY, ANOTHER CRYSTALLINE CRAFT  
DESCENDS, AND...

WE HAVE DECIDED TO LEAVE AND FIND ANOTHER PLANET ON WHICH TO LIVE. I AM GLAD TO HAVE KNOWN YOU, EARTHLING... AND SORRY THAT ALL YOUR PEOPLE ARE NOT AS YOU. IT IS TOO BAD THAT WE ARE NOT READY TO LIVE TOGETHER!

AND SO, LATER, AS BRETT WATCHES THE TRAVELING ISLAND RECEDE INTO DISTANT SKIES...

IT IS TOO BAD! WHAT WONDERS  
THEIR ADVANCED SCIENCE COULD  
HAVE BROUGHT TO EARTH... IF ONLY  
WE WERE ADVANCED ENOUGH TO  
TRUST THEM!

**THE  
END**

# Your Passport to AMAZING ADVENTURES

...OF THE  
**UNEXPECTED**

NOTES IN THE  
BUREAU OF  
NAVY & AIR FORCE  
AND I CAN'T REMEMBER

ON SALE  
EVERYWHERE!



**A NEW  
DANCE RANGER**  
RE 15000

# GREATEST ADVENTURE

THEY GOT ANOTHER

TODAY'S MOST  
**ELECTRIFYING**  
MAGAZINES.

**THE BEAST**  
IN THE  
**3 LIVES!**



# THE DEATHLESS MARE

**F**AR from the traveled waterways, on a lonely spot in the vast ocean, lies the tiny island of Keranyi. So small, so insignificant is this little piece of land that no map even attests to its existence, and its history is known only from stories told by a handful of seamen whose fortune it was to stray off-course and land on Keranyi by sheer accident. It was these sailors who were present at the time of the great uprising by the people of Keranyi, and who witnessed another chapter in the legend of the marvelous mare named Itar.

According to the tales, the mare first appeared on the island centuries ago, ridden by Hotan, the first king of Keranyi. Hotan was a wise and just ruler—and in those early days of his kingdom, he led many an attack against enemies who attempted to overthrow his government. Mounted upon Itar, a giant of an animal with gleaming gold mane, he warded off every aggressor in his path—and it was in those days that the legend of Itar was born.

For when Hotan died, Itar vanished—as magically as she had first arrived—and the good king bequeathed her to all future descendants of his subjects. Hotan's last words were a promise that Itar would return whenever the people needed her to combat an enemy.

Of course, in the generations that followed, this became purely a legend, which few took seriously. But only recently, the legend was reborn in a strange way.

It was during the reign of the evil dictator, Lotil, that one great liberator conceived of a plan to overthrow the ruling government, and bring freedom back to his countrymen. Akra was the name of this leader, and he chose Itar as the symbol upon which he would build his revolt. From his place of hiding, he sent the news

that on a certain day, he would ride across the island on this giant mare, which had returned to depose the tyrannical Lotil. In this way, Akra reasoned, he would easily marshal the population behind him.

The news spread rapidly—and it was repeated so often that the people, knowing full well that Itar was only a legend, couldn't help wondering if, perhaps, the mighty mare really had returned. As for Akra, his plan was simple. He merely painted his tallest horse the color of Itar, and followed by his small army, he rode forth on the heralded day.

As he had hoped, the islanders were swift to rally under his banner. The very sight of Itar rekindled their spirit. Armed with sticks, stones—any weapons they could get their hands on—they rode into battle.

Lotil's soldiers met them head-on, and easily broke up Akra's untrained forces. Indeed, amid fierce fighting, Akra himself was thrown from his horse, and by the time he remounted, his followers were in full retreat. But once atop Itar, he rode like a demon, regrouping his forces and turning the tide of battle. Shouting for his followers to rally behind Itar, he soon had the dictator and his soldiers in complete chaos. The battle was over—the people had won.

Only then did Akra learn that his horse—the painted one on which he had ridden forth—had been killed at the very start of the fight. But how was this possible? The horse he had remounted was a perfect duplicate of the painted one, and none other had existed on the island, unless...

At that very moment, a loud whinny came from the distance. All eyes turned—and there they saw her... Itar, vanishing into the horizon.





**SCIENCE**  
says your  
**WRONG**  
if you  
**BELIEVE**  
**THAT...**

**T**HERE ARE  
CANALS  
ON MARS...



OBSERVATIONS MADE BY MODERN TELESCOPES AND PHOTOGRAPHIC METHODS INDICATE THAT THE NETWORK OF CANALS ON MARS IS SIMPLY AN OPTICAL ILLUSION ARISING FROM THE TENDENCY OF THE HUMAN EYE TO CONNECT DETAILS BY NARROW LINES WHENEVER IT LOOKS AT SOMETHING NEAR THE LIMIT OF VISIBILITY.

**I**NTER-  
PLANETARY  
SPACE IS  
EMPTY...



**A**CTUALLY, THE  
"VOID" BETWEEN  
WORLDS IS  
FILLED WITH  
A MIXTURE  
OF GAS AND  
FINE DUST,  
APPARENTLY  
HAVING THE  
SAME CHEMICAL  
CONSTITUTION  
AS THE SUN  
AND STARS.

**T**HE ROAR OF THE WAVES OF THE  
OCEAN IS HEARD IN SEA SHELLS...



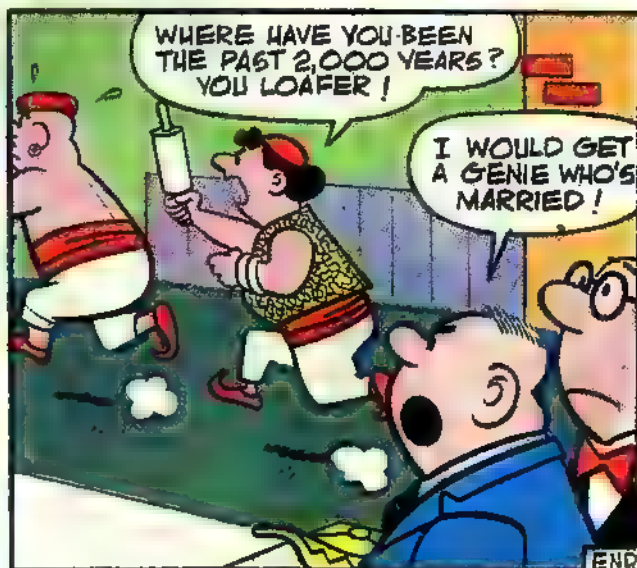
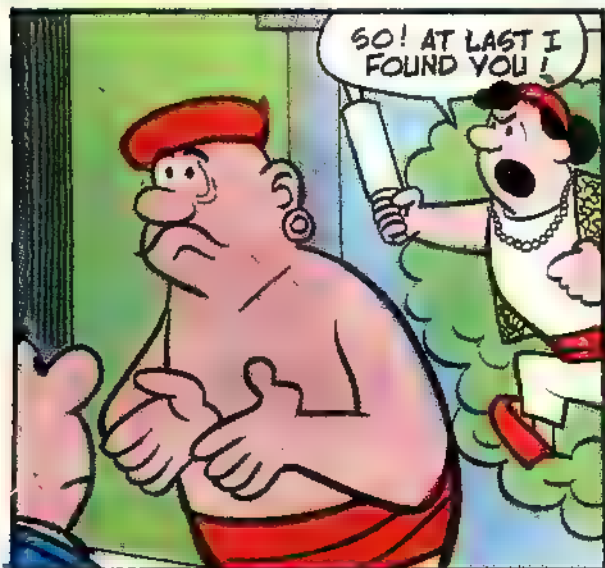
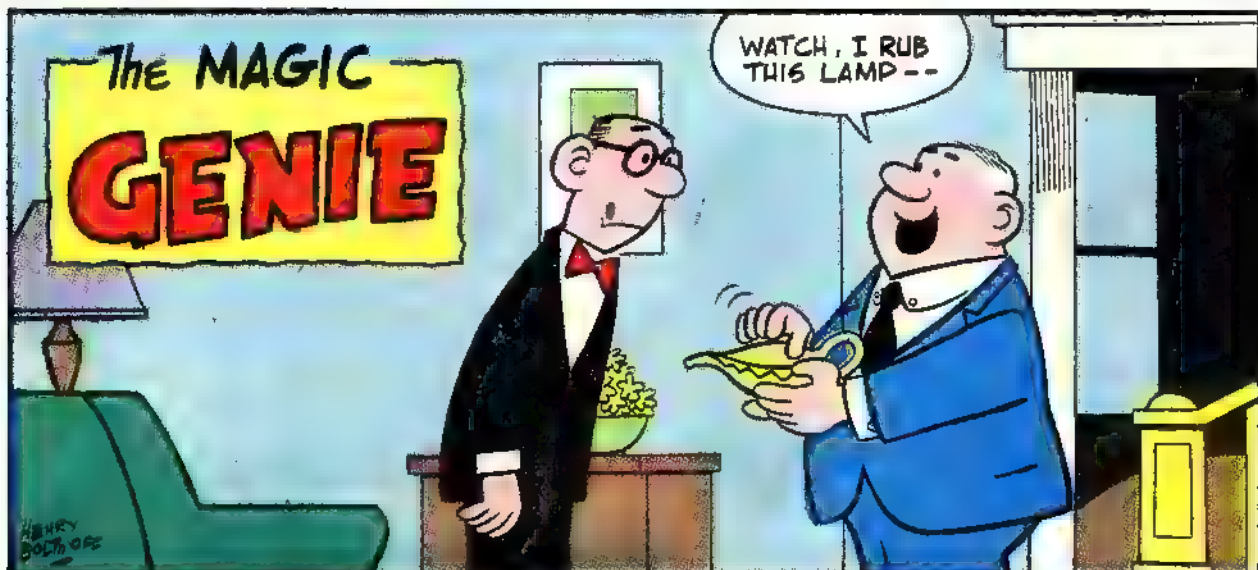
THE SO-CALLED "ROAR OF THE WAVES" IS MERELY A COMPOSITE OF THE ECHOES OF A GREAT NUMBER OF ORDINARY SOUNDS OCCURRING IN THE VICINITY OF THE SHELL.

**Y**OU CAN JUDGE HOW FAR AWAY  
A METEOR IS FALLING...



IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO LOOK AT AN OBJECT OF UNKNOWN SIZE ALONG A PATH IN WHICH THERE ARE NO REFERENCE POINTS, AND ESTIMATE ITS DISTANCE.









FROM OUT OF THE DIM PAST IT CAME -- A CREATURE BENT ON DESTRUCTION -- AND MARK MERLIN, FAR-FAMED SLEUTH OF THE SUPERNATURAL, WHO HAD VENTURED FORTH FEARLESSLY TO MEET THE THREAT, FOUND HIMSELF FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE, AS HE DARED TO CHALLENGE...

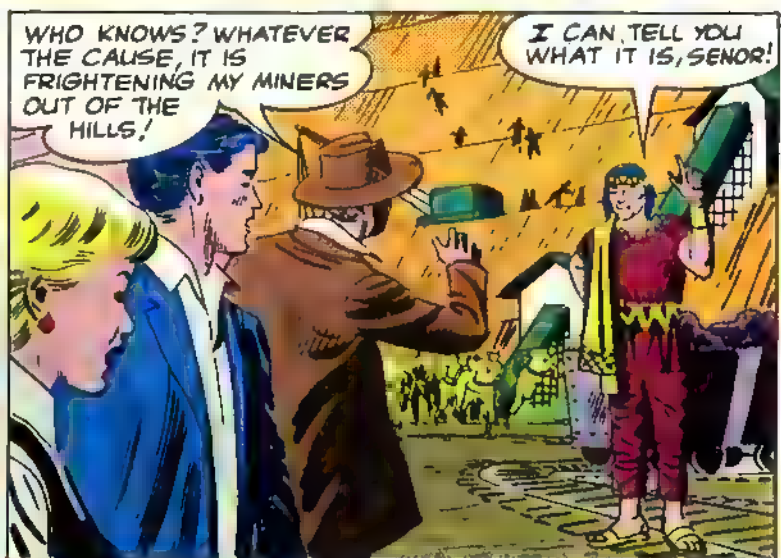
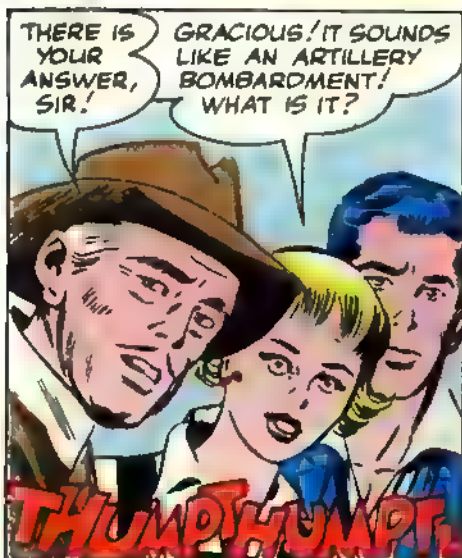
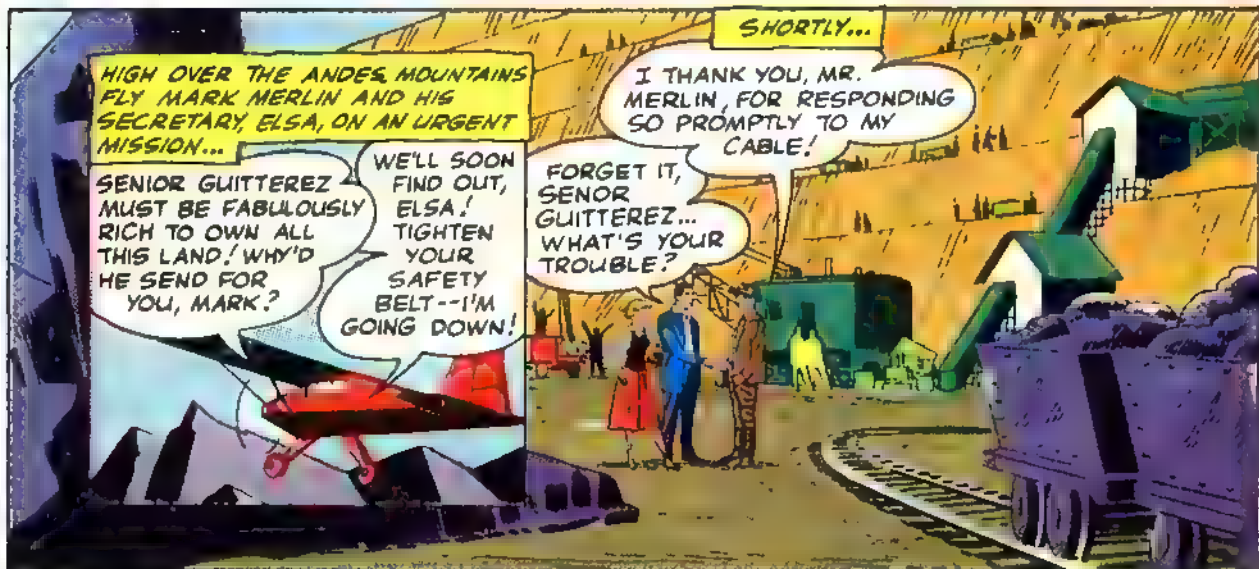
# the **MONSTER** of the **MOUNTAIN**

A  
**MARK  
MERLIN  
MYSTERY**

GOOD GRIEF! MARK'S  
LYING UNCONSCIOUS ON  
THAT BRIDGE -- AND THE  
MONSTER'S GOING AFTER  
HIM!









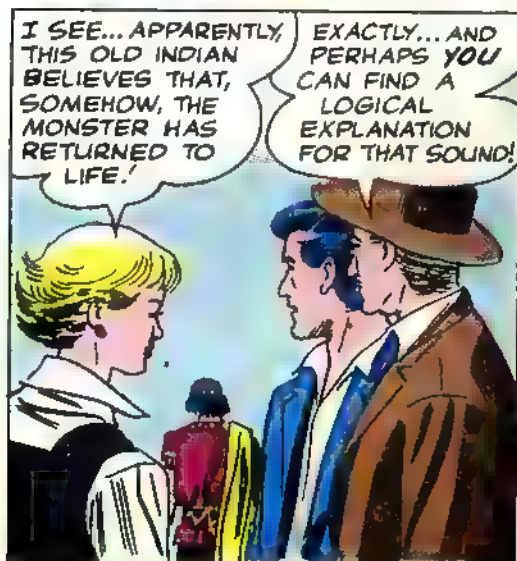


WITH THE ENCHANTED EMERALD IN THIS CASE, MY SON! OBSERVE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I EXPOSE IT!



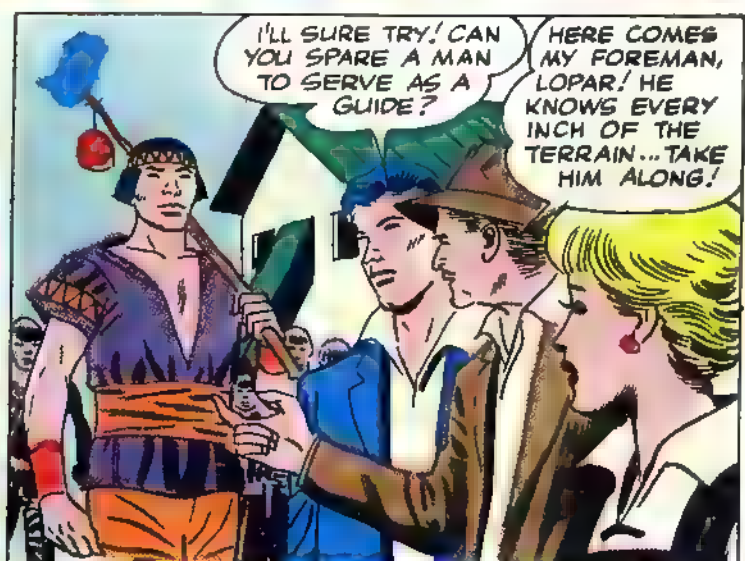
GREAT SPIRITS... A-A TERRIFYING MONSTER! IT WILL DESTROY US!

NO, MY SON... IT WILL OBEY EVEN THE THOUGHTS OF WHOEVER POSSESSES THIS STONE! GUARD IT WELL!



I SEE... APPARENTLY, THIS OLD INDIAN BELIEVES THAT, SOMEHOW, THE MONSTER HAS RETURNED TO LIFE!

EXACTLY... AND PERHAPS YOU CAN FIND A LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR THAT SOUND!



I'LL SURE TRY! CAN YOU SPARE A MAN TO SERVE AS A GUIDE?

HERE COMES MY FOREMAN, LOPAR! HE KNOWS EVERY INCH OF THE TERRAIN... TAKE HIM ALONG!



I FEEL A LOT SAFER WITH LOPAR AROUND, MARK! HE'S A REAL GIANT!

LOPAR PROTECT YOU--NEVER FEAR!



AS THEY CLIMB HIGHER INTO THE MOUNTAIN...

THAT SOUND--IT'S STARTED AGAIN! IT'S MAKING THE GROUND SHAKE!

IT'S THE MOUNTAIN MONSTER! WE FOOLISH TO GO FARTHER!

THUMP THUMP

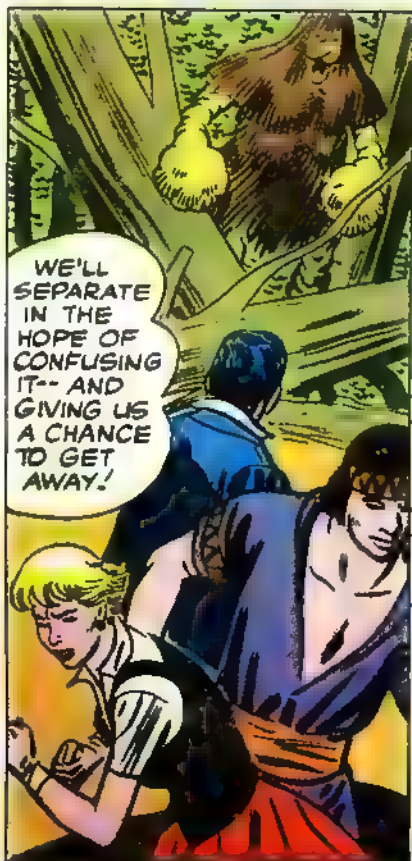




HA, HA! I SEE YOU BELIEVE THE LEGEND ABOUT...

MARK--LOOK! S-SOMETHING'S MOWING DOWN THOSE TREES-- LIKE A TANK!

YOU SEE?... IT TRUE! THE MONSTER OF MOUNTAIN... IT COME TO DESTROY US!



WE'LL SEPARATE IN THE HOPE OF CONFUSING IT-- AND GIVING US A CHANCE TO GET AWAY!



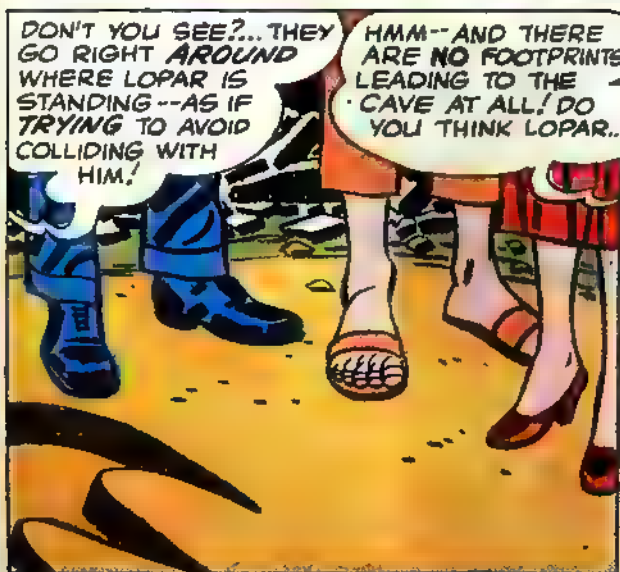
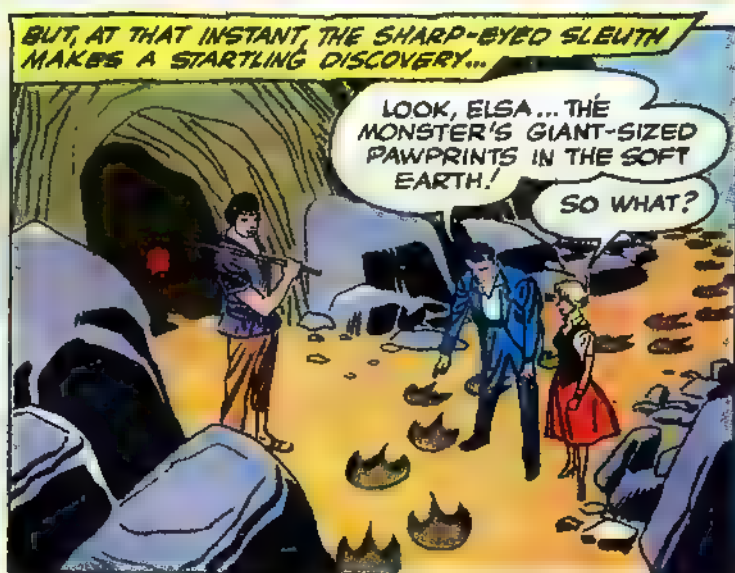
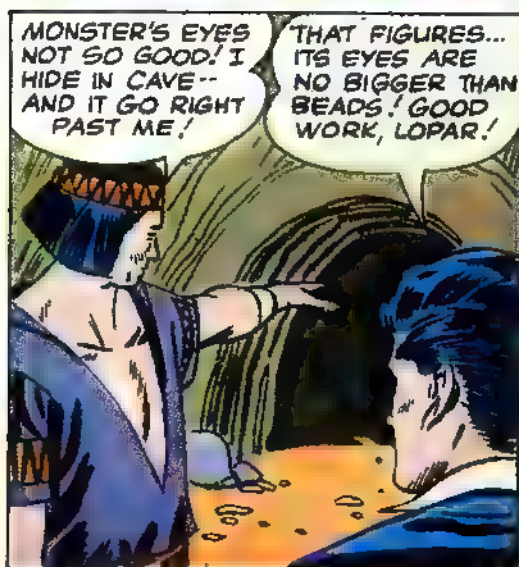
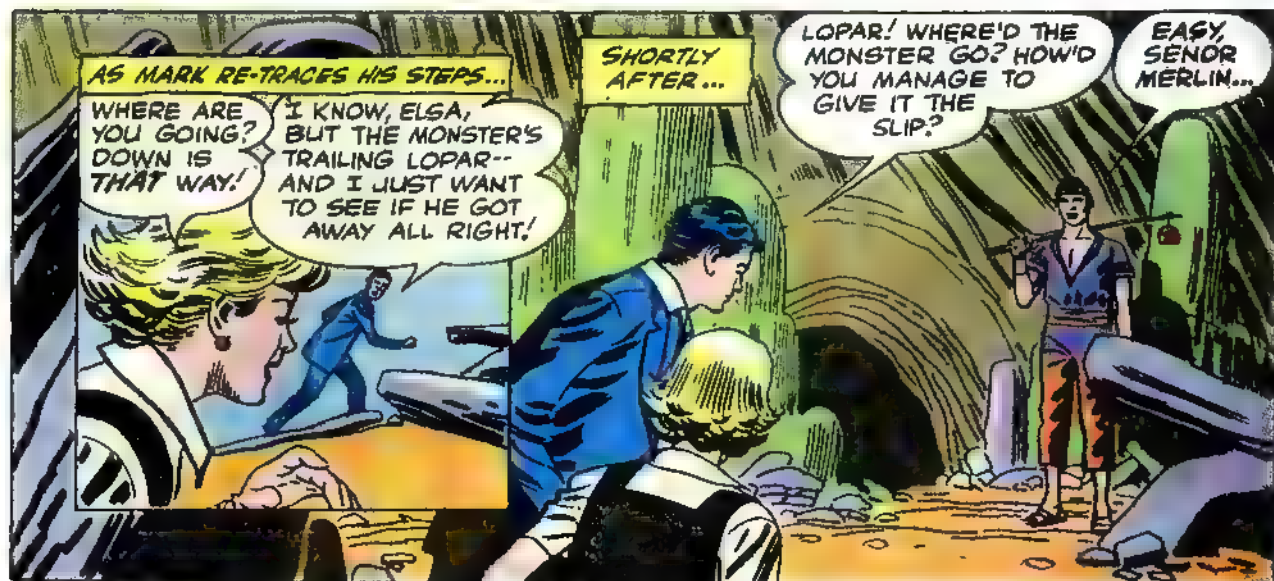
IT WORKED! THE MONSTER'S WASTING TIME, TRYING TO MAKE UP ITS MIND WHICH WAY TO GO!



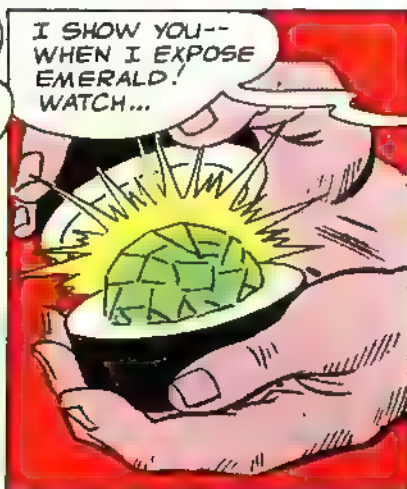
A MOMENT LATER...

IT'S TAKING AFTER LOPAR! HE'S GOT A GOOD HEAD START-- BUT I'LL FOLLOW ANYWAY... MAKE SURE HE'S OKAY!

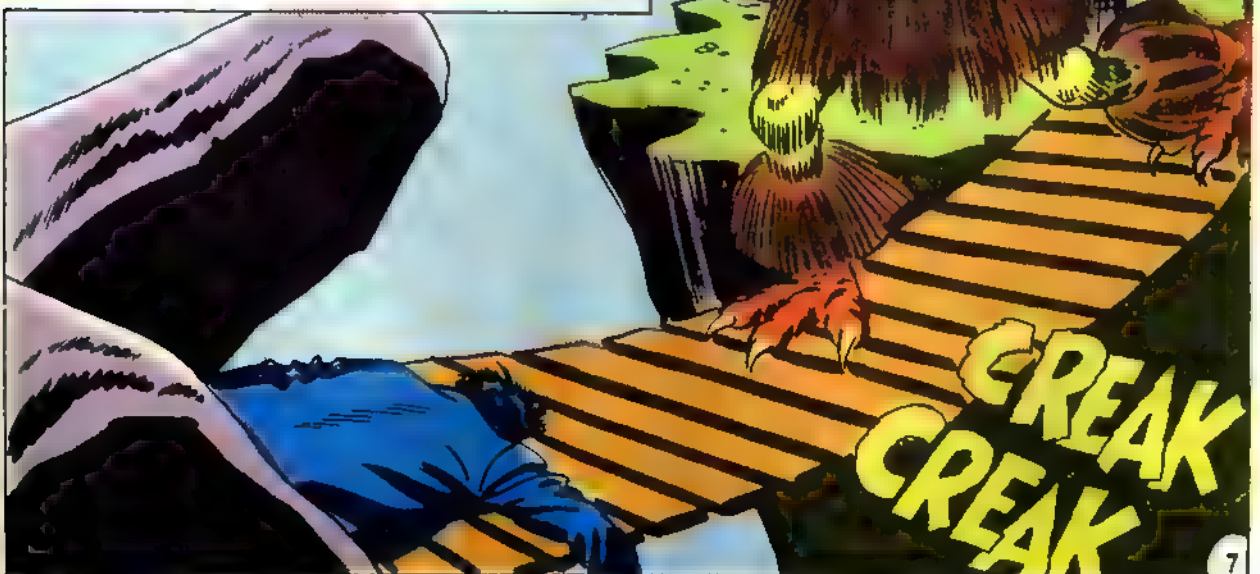
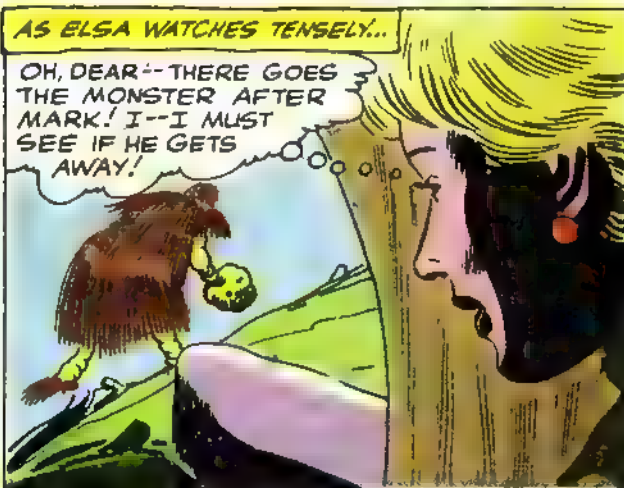














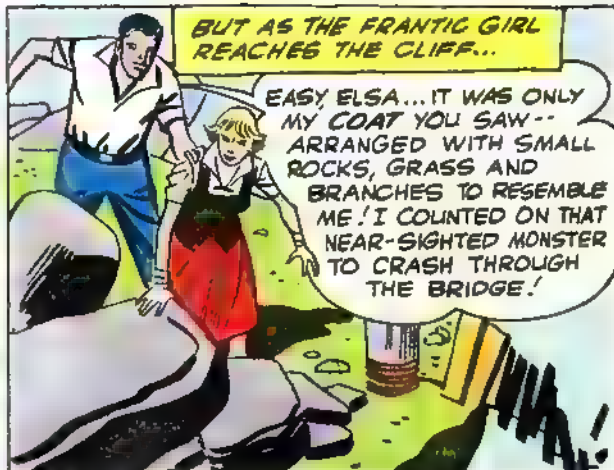
NEXT INSTANT...

OH, NO! THE BRIDGE  
COLLAPSED--CATAPULTING  
MARK INTO THE GORGE!  
HE'S DOOMED!



BUT AS THE FRANTIC GIRL  
REACHES THE CLIFF...

EASY, ELSA... IT WAS ONLY  
MY COAT YOU SAW--  
ARRANGED WITH SMALL  
ROCKS, GRASS AND  
BRANCHES TO RESEMBLE  
ME! I COUNTED ON THAT  
NEAR-SIGHTED MONSTER  
TO CRASH THROUGH  
THE BRIDGE!



BUT SUDDENLY...

MARK! LOPAR IS  
LASSOING HIM!



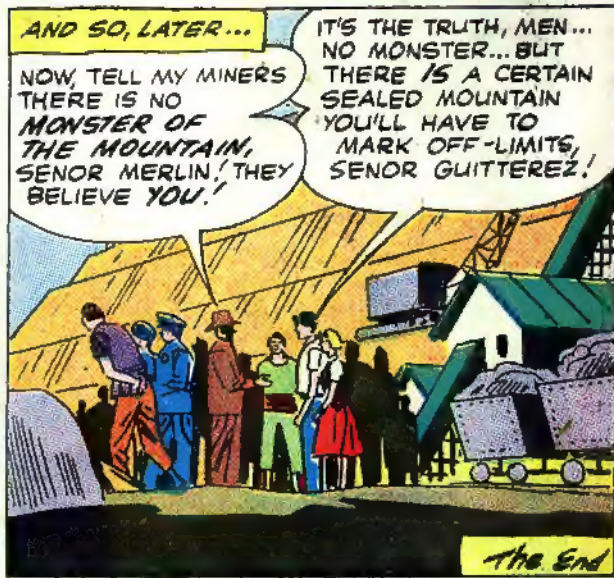
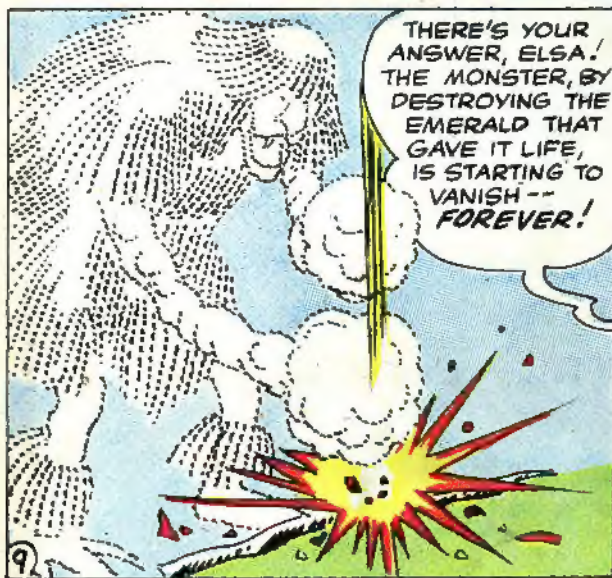
H-HE'S TRYING TO PULL  
MARK INTO THE GORGE--  
AND INTO THE ARMS OF  
THAT WAITING MONSTER!



OH-H-H... I-I  
CAN'T LOOK!







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**REMEMBER:** No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You can return all the mottoes you do not sell. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.



WRITE  
FOR COMPLETE  
DETAILS  
TO ➡

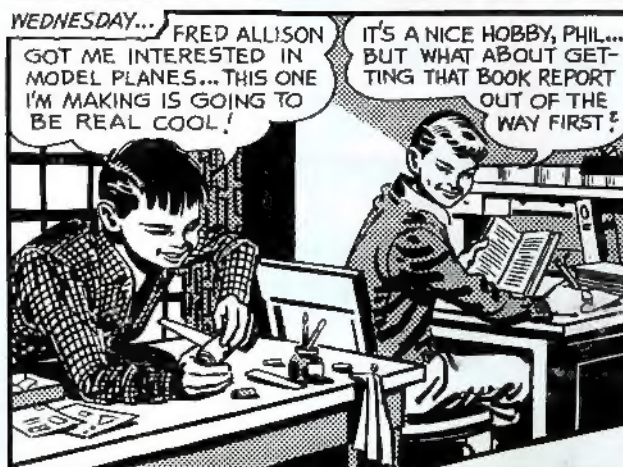
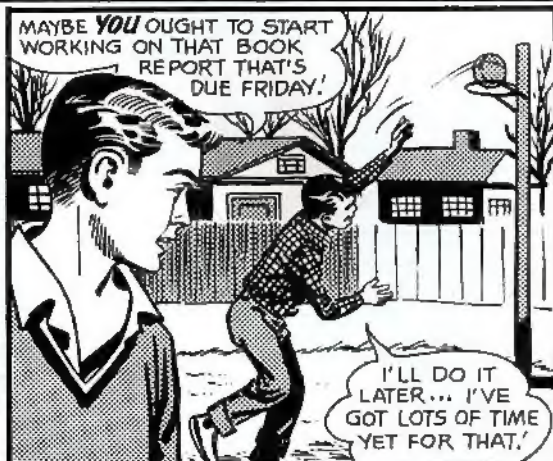
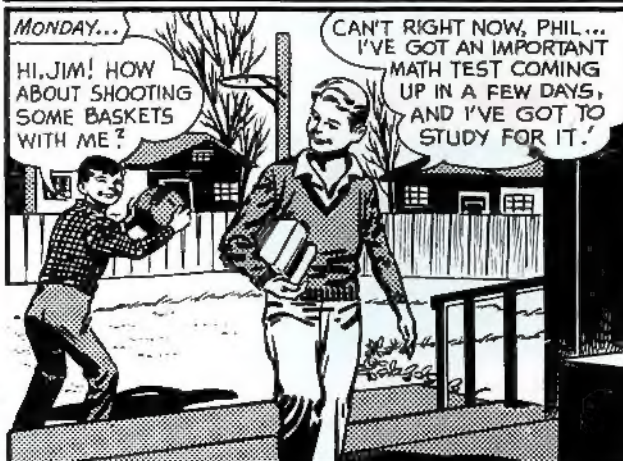
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